

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### ***Mayor Healy Appoints Eight Member Citizen Advisory Board Group will Interact with City Officials and Consultants in Implementation of Settlement with PPG Industries***

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy** signed an Executive Order today creating an eight (8) member **Citizen Advisory Board** to interact with City Officials and consultants responsible for implementing the settlement of litigation between the City of Jersey City and PPG Industries in the remediation of chromium contamination at the site of its former plant on Garfield Avenue and at several other sites throughout the city.

“The Citizen Advisory Board is intended to be a group representative of the citizens who live within the area of the Garfield Avenue Site,” said **Mayor Healy**. “They will have the opportunity to work with the City’s experts and officials who will be part of the overall clean-up process. The Citizen Advisory Board will also have the opportunity to meet with the Site Administrator, his experts, DEP officials and PPG.”

“As residents with a clear stake in the outcome of the clean-up, we believe that the City Council and the Administration can be assisted by their input,” **Mayor Healy** added.

Since the City Council approved the settlement in June, Chancery Judge Thomas Oliveri entered an Order approving the settlement. The litigation was part of several legal actions commenced by the City of Jersey and the New Jersey Attorney General, on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection, that sought to compel several generators of chromium contamination to remediate various contaminated sites in Hudson and Essex Counties.

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Judge Oliveri also entered an Order approving former Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under President Bill Clinton, Mike McCabe, to serve as the Site Administrator. Mr. McCabe, who was also the Regional Administrator for Region III of the EPA for four years and served on President Barack Obama's environmental transition team, will be responsible for overseeing the clean-up. Mr. McCabe announced that he will be holding a general public meeting regarding the clean-up on November 23, 2009.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///**